

*CLAIM AMENDMENTS*

B<sup>1</sup>

1. (Currently Amended) A lens barrel comprising:  
a plurality of cylindrical bodies expandable in a multistage fashion;  
an optical lens system constituted by a plurality of lens groups disposed along an optical axis, all of said plurality of lens groups being accommodated in a leading cylindrical body ~~to be extended~~, among said plurality of cylindrical bodies; and  
a driving source incorporated in said leading cylindrical body, wherein said optical lens system comprises at least ~~one~~ two fixed lens ~~group~~ groups secured to said leading cylindrical body and at least one movable lens group movable along the optical axis upon receiving a driving force of said driving source.

2. (Currently Amended) The lens barrel according to claim 1, wherein ~~said optical lens system comprises two fixed lens groups~~, said movable lens group ~~being~~ is disposed between said two fixed lens groups.

3. (Currently Amended) The lens barrel according to claim 1, further comprising:  
a movable lens frame ~~having attached to~~ attached to said movable lens group ~~attached thereto~~;  
a threaded shaft, in mesh with said movable lens frame, oriented along the optical axis of said plurality of lens groups; and  
a rotary driving section for supplying a rotary force to said threaded shaft ~~so as~~ to rotate said movable lens group along the optical axis direction.

4. (Previously Amended) The lens barrel according to claim 1, wherein said lens optical system is a taking optical system of an optical device.